



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.1707 | FAX (517) 373.3935
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/toy/

For Immediate Release
May 25, 2005

Contact: Heather Lombardini
517-373-1707

Sen. Toy announces Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week

LANSING – The week of May 22-28, 2005 has been declared Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week in Michigan, announced Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia. The purpose of this week is to raise public awareness about EAB and the collective effort underway to prevent its spread.

“Our area has been at the epicenter of the Emerald Ash Borer infestation in Michigan,” Toy said. “As we continue to fight this agricultural menace throughout the state, I cannot stress enough the importance of respecting the quarantine to protect Michigan's remaining ash trees.”

During the week and throughout the year, Michigan residents and visitors should learn about EAB and adhere to the state's quarantine banning the transport of ash trees, ash materials and all firewood from quarantined areas. Toy urges residents to be on the lookout for and immediately report possible signs of infestation through the toll-free EAB hotline at 866-325-0023.

The Emerald Ash Borer Response Project, comprised of state and federal agencies, universities, and industry partners, attributes many of the most isolated pockets of infestation to the movement of infested firewood.

Emerald Ash Borer is an exotic insect native to Asia that attacks ash trees. In its larval stage, EAB feeds undetected under the bark of ash trees, disrupting water and nutrient flow, and ultimately killing the trees in just a few years. First discovered in 2002, the borer is responsible for the death or damage of approximately 15 million ash trees in southeast Michigan.

###